

Dec. 3, 1913 - Morning

Dearest Boy - I will just snatch  
literally snatch this time to write  
you a letter to go along with the  
Christmas package that I fear will  
reach you late. But, dear, I am just  
so busy every morn'g I can't do  
any more things unless I stay up all  
night to do it. I have to pack my  
things for Christmas, write my letters,  
prepare my class-room work, get  
my Korean lesson, do my extra read-  
ing, etc. - after the children go to bed  
at 7:30 - unless I have callers  
and then I do it - after that. The day  
time is just as full as it can be.  
You know I want to be busy - just  
overflowingly busy but I don't  
always get everything done that I  
want to do. Don't think this is a com-  
plaint - far from it - it is just  
a statement of fact. Last night I  
got my package to you and Geo.  
done up and I am sending it  
parcels post this morning. The  
package contains the following to  
be disposed as <sup>given</sup> below. There is  
a big old brass candlestick - it  
has been in a Korean family of means  
for years and years. It is old even  
for Korea. It was made by hand.  
My outside man bought it for me.  
Now if you would like to have it you  
can keep it yourself but I thought  
with my two brass ones there you  
could soon give this to George.  
I have the candle

is disposed as a big old brass candlestick - it has been in a Korean family of means for years and years. It is old even for Korea. It was made by hand. My outside man bought it for me. Now if you would like to have it you can keep it yourself but I thought with my two brass ones there you would as soon give this to George. Just decide that yourself. It has a piece that slips on to hold the candle or shade that shades the light when so desired. They burn these candles in their houses and always use the shades to keep the light out of the eyes. I think this piece of brass very interesting. They have so much brass here and I intend to collect and send things home often. There are some wonderful brass bound chests for dining room linen and silver that I hope some day to send to you and for. Then there is a brass tray. It is also made by hand and very old. It is for you or George as you may decide - the candlestick for one the tray for the other. The tray is for use on the table or side board. We put the coffee pot or sugar and cream things in these. They are nice to put a plant in in the center of the table - and many uses. There is also a brass brazier or "quarry" that is used in the heathen sacrificial service. It is not an altar but is hand made, as you can see. They put charcoal inside and sprinkle a sort of incense powder on the coals then let the fumes come out through the holes. There are candles burn-  
This brazier during

the center of it is also a brass tray  
uses. There is also a brass tray  
or "quarry" that is used in this  
heathen sacrificial service. It is  
not an altar but is hand made,  
as you can see. They put charcoal  
inside and sprinkle a sort of in-  
cense powder on the coals then  
let the fumes come out through  
the holes. There are candles burn-  
ing before this tray during  
the ceremony. Now you might  
prefer this to either of the other  
pieces - I want you to have what  
you prefer most. But I want  
one of these I had selected this tray  
to go to Mrs. Fawcett. Whatever  
you decide tell her about the piece  
you give her - and give it with  
my love. Then there is a tie each  
for you and George. I chose the  
brown for you and the green for  
George. But you may wish to exchange  
just be pleased with the one  
you like best. Then the pipe (which  
is to be put together and the "Ch'im"  
or native doctor's needle, is for  
George. I have written him about  
them. The little brown or rice  
straw is the kind they use in all  
Korean houses. It is a useful  
article after it gets through  
"shedding." It is for Marguerite. I  
am sending one like it to Mrs.  
Williams with a silk lace collar.  
I thought <sup>which</sup> would go nicely with the  
brown <sup>coat</sup>. Lenore sent a sample.  
The pleasant skins are for you and  
Marguerite. They are beautiful  
mounted. They use them here on  
the pianos, etc. The hats

shedding. It is for Marguerite.  
I am sending one like it to Mrs.  
Williams with a silk lace collar.  
I thought <sup>which</sup> would go nicely with the  
brown coat. Lenore sent a sample.  
The pleasant skins are for you and  
Marguerite. They are beautiful  
mounted. They use them here on  
mantles, pianos, etc. The hats  
made of these skins are very choice  
and expensive in America. Some-  
times the skins are hung flat  
against a dining-room wall. They  
make choice decorations. I had  
some cured to send home. I am  
sending Lenore one, also. The  
duck skin is for you to use in  
the dining room - or as you like.  
I think they are so pretty. I  
have a beautiful big goose skin  
but it is too large to send in this  
package. We skin our fowl  
instead of picking the feathers out.  
There is a roll of this same paper  
I write on. I got and I see. Can  
use it, if you wish. I thought it  
would interest you to see it and  
know how it works. Dear, I have  
asked Lucy to take some of my money  
and get some little things for you  
and Ger. that I can't manage here.  
And I want you to pay out of my  
money any duty charges on this  
package and please. Kindly tell  
me what the charges were. It is im-  
portant for me to know this in order  
to decide about the value of things  
I want to send you. I am sending  
Lenore a real lace collar and  
several yards of real lace for  
her. They are made in

And I want to pay any  
money any duty charges on this  
package and please kindly tell  
me what the charges were. It is im-  
portant for me to know this in order  
to decide about the value of things  
I want to send you. I am sending  
Lenore a real lace collar and  
several yards of real lace for  
her trimmings. They are made in  
China and I bought them from a  
traveling Chinese merchant. They are  
considered very fine and in Amer-  
ica cost a great deal of money.  
Yesterday was foreign mail day -  
always a day of joy for me. I  
only had seven letters! You  
and Ger. and Lenore and Lucy and  
Lillie and I can't think whom else  
except one from the Board in-  
cluding a gift to be "used person-  
ally" for my Christmas gift, I  
\$20 from the Takoma Park Soc.  
Why - wasn't it dear in them!  
I also had a letter from the Treas.  
of the Woman's Foreign Board in  
Philadelphia saying that the Wash-  
ington Presbytery had "shared" my  
letter to them, with the Board in  
Philadelphia and kindly saying  
it was "a most beautiful letter."  
I really forget about these letters.  
It is like talking along in a reg-  
ular stream - so much happens  
and all is so new and unusual  
that it grows and grows in volume.  
Now dear, I must run to school.  
I'll finish this when I come back,  
11 o'clock. I have just received  
a note inviting me

It was - I really forget about these letters.  
It is like talking along in a tree  
war stream - so much happens  
and all is so new and unusual  
that it grows and grows in volume  
now dear, I must run to school.  
I'll finish this when I come back,  
at 11 o'clock. I have just received  
a beautiful little note inviting me  
to dinner tomorrow evening, at one  
of the nicest homes - Mrs. Baird's.  
She is one of my special friends here -  
comes to see me quite often. I con-  
sider her the most intellectual woman  
I have met in Korea. She is a  
writer - wrote that little book I  
got in N.Y. and several others.  
She and I "took" to each other at  
once. She goes home on her  
furlough in the Spring and I shall  
miss her - but I want you to see  
her then. Her husband is President  
of our Union College for Korean  
boys. My Korean teacher is one of  
his graduates and now a teacher  
in the college. I wish you could  
have seen the tall Korean, dressed  
in his white padded coat and  
little high hat who came bowing  
to the door with this note. When  
they want to show particular honor  
to one they take hold of their own  
wrist in handing you anything -  
and bow and bow. I love this  
Oriental bow - and I'm practicing  
it - they say I'm quite expert at  
meeting the Japanese who do so  
much bowing and do it with the  
most perfect grace. When two  
+ the bow and

wrist in ramming for carrying -  
and bow and bow. I love this  
Oriental bow - and Lin practicing  
it - they say Lin quite expert at  
meeting the Japanese who do so  
much bowing and do it with the  
most perfect grace. When two  
Japanese meet they bow and  
bow - men and women both - al-  
ways keeping an eye out to see  
when the other is going to stop - but  
you must keep bowing as long as  
the other fellow wishes. Now Lin Lin.

Lin home again, sitting by this pleas-  
ant fire. We have a big stove in the  
folding doors between our sitting room  
and dining room and it heats up  
nicely. All the rooms have stoves, ex-  
cept one, even our little bath room.  
We use the coal cinders or dust made  
up into "bricks" with some clay. It burns  
just like wood. For kindling we use the  
ends of pine branches dried. You see  
whole caravans of of bells carrying  
loads of these pine tips that cover them  
almost to their necks and feet above  
their heads. You will be interested to know  
that the black rope around the pack-  
age is the strong rope the men hang  
over their shoulders and through  
which they slip the ends of the poles  
they carry you with when you travel  
by chair. They use this rope, too to  
fasten the "jiggle" on the back, on  
which they carry such terrible  
loads. I saw a man this morning  
with a chiffernier - a big one, on his  
back in his "jiggle". This rope is made  
of hair, human hair. All the hair, on  
the heads of the people is like this, straight  
and black - you rarely see gray hair -  
almost never white hair. I suppose  
they reverence it so much.

they carry you with  
by chair. They use this rope, too to  
fasten the "jiggy" on the back, on  
which they carry such terrible  
loads. I saw a man this morning  
with a chiffernier - a big one, on his  
back in his "jiggy". This rope is made  
of hair, human hair. All the hair on  
the heads of the people is like this, straight  
and black. You rarely see gray hair -  
almost never white hair. I suppose  
that is why they revere it so much.  
They always think light haired foreign-  
ers are old - it doesn't matter  
how really young - if the hair is  
light colored. They don't seem to be  
able to distinguish between light hair  
and gray. It never ceases to be wonder-  
ful to them that I do ancient, should  
undertake so long a journey. We have  
a servant who has learned quite a  
good many English words and when  
ever I get foreign mail she smiles  
and asks, "From your boy?" and

When I was doing up this package she  
asked "America, boy?" She is a  
gentle little thing with many sorrows.  
Her husband is an opium fiend  
and beats and abuses her. She is  
a Christian and has a lovely dispo-  
sition. She is setting the table now for  
dinner. She has on a long white apron  
over her thick "poggies" or trousers and  
the white band over her hair. As the  
weather gets colder they open out this  
band of folded cloth and tie it over  
the head and ears. Ajisi has on the  
padded white cotton shoes they wear  
in the house. But of course she put  
on the straw sandals and when it rains  
or is muddy or snowy they slip on  
high wooden sandals and go clattering  
along. The clatter of the wooden shoes  
among the Japanese - who always



weather gets colder they open out this  
band of folded cloth and tie it over  
the head and ears. <sup>Asiatic</sup> has on the  
padded white cotton shoes they wear  
in the house. Out of doors they put  
in the straw sandals and when it rains  
or is muddy or snowy they slip on  
high wooden sandals and go clattering  
along. The clatter of the wooden shoes  
among the Japanese — who always  
wear them and never lift their feet  
but scrub along dropping the heels  
at every step — this awful clatter  
gets on my nerves. The Koreans wear  
the straw sandals, for the most part.

It is just now time for dinner, and  
the children are all here, sharply  
hungry for the air is bitterly cold,  
outside. Do you want to know our  
menu? Beef loaf, rice, potatoes, celery,  
apple sauce, corn bread and butter,  
bread pudding with lots sauce and  
raisins. The man has gone to the office  
with the package, taking \$2 with him  
to pay the postage, though I am not  
sure that will be enough. Do you  
want to know that in the center of  
our table is a beautiful maiden hair  
fern, given me by Miss Best, my  
dear, best neighbor. How we must  
go as the waitress has announced  
"Chop cicles" Do you know what  
that means? Dearest say my love  
and blessing and every good  
Christmas blessing go with you.  
God bless and love you and give you  
great happiness — you deserve it, my  
sweet, true boy. With love.

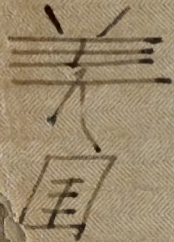
Later — Dear, just think, the man  
comes home saying my nice package  
is too large and will have to be  
divided — so I will fix it up when  
I get home tonight.

great happiness - you deserve it. my  
sweet, true boy. With love.

Later - Dear, just think, <sup>Mother</sup> the man  
comes home saying my nice package  
is too large and will have to be  
divided - so I will fix it up when  
I get home tonight - The Japanese  
wanted to divide it in the post office  
but the man wouldn't let them. That  
<sup>is the</sup> way they are - so devoured  
with curiosity.  
Love - mother.

Later - Dear, I have had to change my  
package as it was over weight. The  
same things are in but there will  
be two baskets. There is a little brass  
bowl with a lid that I will ask you  
to give to Miss Fisher - you know the  
little Miss Fisher on 1st St. S.E. The  
little bowl holds the powder for the  
incense that is burned in the little  
brass tray or "warrow" not  
"quarry" that I am sending to Mrs.  
Lawcett. These two pieces of brass  
are apart of the sacrificial set of  
four pieces, two candlesticks and  
these two. You have to buy the whole  
set, they never sell them separately.  
I am sending Kate and Aunt Armine  
Ray each a candlestick. They are  
small but quaint. Today I bought  
such beautiful lace that I am going  
to send later with a pink cotton crepe  
to Lenore for one of her dresses, if she  
isn't married until Spring. I would  
love to send her wedding dress, a  
white embroidered gauze that I can  
get in Japan. Shall I? I have  
gotten their Christmas package of  
but no one else. They will be late  
for all good - but it will make  
Christmas last longer - and I can't  
possibly do more. I have taken the  
time tonight to write a long letter to that  
little Lewis O'Bannon, at Corydon.  
I had our man make him a dress  
"jiggle" like the men and boys carry  
in. It is cute - and I sent a  
piece of a child, also

for all of you - and I can  
Christmas last longer, and I can  
possibly do more. I have taken the  
time tonight to write a long letter to that  
little Lewis O'Bannon, at Congdon.  
I had our man make him a real  
"jiggle" like the men and boys carry  
loads in. It is cute - and I sent a  
little Korean figure of a child, also  
as a "load" in the jiggle. - I do love  
you. I may need to add a line when  
your packages go. They are all ready  
to be taken. - The packages have been  
all weighed and are ready to be taken.  
The man has just tied them up and is  
now going off to the bank to draw a  
check for me to pay the postage. You  
must tell me the duty you have to pay.  
You can keep one of the baskets and  
give one to anyone you wish, Marguerite  
if she likes. These baskets are called  
"tunge" - be sure to pronounce it  
right. We are all going shopping  
this afternoon, come along - We are  
going to have honey and hot biscuits  
for dinner, tomorrow - may we expect  
you? - With deepest, deepest love,  
Be just as happy as you ought  
to be -  
Mother.



Mr. James D. Luekett,  
Vienna,  
USA, Virginia

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1913